REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification and Figure 2 are amended solely to correct minor informalities therein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments merely correct informalities in the specification and drawings); (c) do not present any additional claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. In particular, the amendments solely correct minor informalities in the specification and Fig. 2 and, in no way, raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicant submits a Replacement Sheet for Fig. 2 solely to correct a minor informality therein. Support for the amendment to Figure 2 can at least be found on page 16, line 45. It is requested that the Examiner acknowledge the amendment to Figure 2 and that the Replacement Sheet containing the revised Fig. 2 be entered.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent 6,044,205A issued to Reed et al. ("Reed"). This rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicant submits that Reed fails to disclose the combination of features recited in each of claims 1, 4, 6 and 9, including, inter alia:

- plural hyperobject means, each of which comprises a procedure calling expression generation rule storage means for storing a procedure calling expression generation rule for generating a procedure calling expression, wherein the procedure calling expression generation rule stored in the procedure calling expression generation rule storage means is composed of a character string according to a predetermined syntax rule for describing one or more generation rule elements composed of a reference to the attribute value

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and/or a reference to a result of the generation of the procedure calling expression in linked hyperobject means ... generation rule element extracting means ... means for searching the attribute storage means if the extracted generation rule element is the reference to the attribute value and substituting a corresponding attribute value for the generation rule element, and means for issuing the request for generating the procedure calling expression to the linked hyperobject means ..., as recited in claim 1;

- plural hyperobject means, each of which comprises a URL generation rule storage means for storing a URL generation rule for generating a URL as a procedure calling expression, wherein the URL generation rule stored in the URL generation rule storage means is composed of a character string according to a predetermined syntax rule for describing one or more URL generation rule elements composed of a reference to the attribute value and/or a reference to a result of the generation of the URL in linked hyperobject means, and the hyperobject means is activated in response to a request for generating the URL, the system further comprising URL generation rule element extracting means, means for searching the attribute storage means ... and means for issuing the request for generating the URL to the linked hyperobject means ..., as recited in claim 4;

- a hyperobject comprising a procedure calling expression generation rule storage means for storing a procedure calling expression generating rule for generating a procedure calling expression, wherein the procedure calling expression generation rule stored in the procedure calling expression generation rule storage means is composed of a character string according to a predetermined syntax rule for describing one or more generation rule elements composed of a reference to an attribute value and/or a reference to a result of the generation of the procedure calling expression in a linked hyperobject, and the hyperobject is activated in response to a request for generating the procedure calling expression, the hyperobject further comprising means for interpreting the procedure calling expression generation rule ... means for searching the attribute storage means ..., and means for issuing the request for generating the procedure calling expression to the linked hyperobject ..., as recited in claim 6; and

- a hyperobject comprising a URL generation rule storage means for storing a URL generation rule for generating a URL as a procedure calling expression, wherein the URL generation rule stored in the URL generation rule storage means is composed of a character string according to a predetermined syntax rule for describing one or more URL generation rule elements composed of a reference to the attribute value and/or a reference to a result of the generation of the URL in a linked hyperobject, and the hyperobject is activated in response to a request for generating the URL, the hyperobject further comprising means for interpreting the URL generation rule ..., means for searching the attribute storage means if the extracted URL generation rule element is the reference to the attribute value ..., as recited in claim 9.

First, Applicant notes that nowhere does the October 22, 2003 Office Action or the March 4, 2004 Office Action state what portion of Reed discloses all the claimed aspects of the above-identified features which are recited after the "wherein" clause in each of claims 1, 4, 6 and 9. Applicant submits that the Office Action failed to identify which portion of Reed discloses all the features because Reed fails to disclose those features of claims 1, 4, 6 and 9.

Second, although the October 22, 2003 Office Action states that Fig. 3, col. 12, lines 39-60, col. 13, lines 38-46 and col. 14, line 66 - col. 15, line 12; and col. 15, lines 21-24 of Reed disclose the 'procedure calling expression generation rule storage means' features of claims 1 and 6 and the 'URL generation rule storage means' features of claims 4 and 9, Applicant respectfully submits that Fig. 3 and col. 12, lines 39-60 of Reed show/state that information that is to be transferred between the provider and consumer programs 12, 22 can be stored in the provider and consumer databases 11, 21. Further, Reed states that the use of software objects and object-oriented databases, and in particular their ability to encapsulate data and methods for operating on that data in a single structure, provide certain degrees of functionality which are useful in the storage, transfer and processing of information. Fig. 3 of Reed shows an embodiment of object classes in a single database 100 (col. 13, lines 14-15) and, for example, shows that each object class includes 3 parts: an identifier 111, an attribute section 112, and a method section 113. Nowhere does Reed disclose or suggest that any of the objects comprise a procedure calling expression generation rule storage means for storing a procedure calling expression generation rule for generating a procedure calling expression, as recited in claims 1 and 6, or a URL generation rule storage means for storing a URL generation rule for generating a URL as a procedure calling expression, as recited in claims 4 and 9.

Third, nowhere does the March 4 Office Action identify what portion of Reed discloses "the hyperobject means is activated in response to a request for generating the

procedure calling expression" feature of claims 1 and 6 or "the hyperobject means is activated in response to a request for generating the URL" feature of claims 4 and 9. Applicant submits that the Office Action failed to identify what portion of Reed discloses these features because Reed does not disclose these features.

Fourth, page 9 of the Office Action states that the "means for searching the attribute storage means" features of claims 1, 4, 6 and 9 is implicit because Reed teaches of: (1) principle object classes in col. 13, lines 29-46, (2) easily searching data in an object-oriented database in col. 28, lines 58-65, and (3) searching of the database for all class instances for matching attributes as well as resetting the attributes to prepare the database in col. 25, lines 35-41. Applicant submits that Applicant's claims 1, 4, 6 and 9 explicitly recite features of the means for searching, and these claimed features of the means for searching cannot be ignored or generalized. In particular, the means for searching feature of claims 1, 4, 6 and 9 specifically states "means for searching the attribute storage means if the extracted generation rule element is the reference to the attribute value and substituting a corresponding attribute value for the generation rule element".
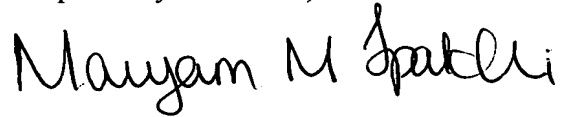
Similarly, Applicant submits that the explicitly claimed features of the "means for issuing the request" of claims 1, 4, 6 and 9 cannot be ignored and/or generalized.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant submits that Reed fails to disclose or suggest all the features of claims 1, 4, 6 and 9, as well as all the features of claims 3 and 8, which depend from claims 1 and 6, respectively. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:MMI/ccs

Attachment:
Replacement Figure 2

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
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